

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 ACDA-12 MCE-00 TRSE-00

OMB-01 IGA-02 NSCE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

INRE-00 L-03 H-01 SSO-00 AID-05 PM-05 SP-02

SS-15 /089 W

-----075055 171826Z /40

O R 171755Z FEB 78 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6359

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NDJAMENA 0702

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CD

SUBJECT: MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO CHAD

1. VICE PRESIDENT DJIME CALLED ME TO SUPREME MILITARY HEADQUARTERS EVENING OF FEB. 17. HE LOOKED TIRED BUT NOT DISCOURAGED, AND TOLD ME THAT WHILE ALL THE OTHER POSTS IN THE NORTH WERE LOST, FAYA LARGEAU STILL HELD. HE SAID THAT ANOTHER EFFORT WOULD BE MADE TO LIFT THE SIEGE THERE. HE THEN INFORMED ME THAT CHADIAN DELEGATION, HEADED BY GEN. DJOGO, MINISTER OF HEALTH, WAS ALREADY IN TEHRAN. PRECIPITOUS TRAVEL OF DELEGATION WAS EVIDENTLY SET IN MOTION BY POSITIVE INDICATIONS GIVEN THE CHADIANS BY IRANIANS IN PARIS.

2. DJIME SAYS THAT IN GENERAL THE TALKS WERE GOING WELL, BUT THAT THE IRANIANS HAD ASKED FOR SOME SORT OF SIGNED ACCORD WHICH INDICATED THAT THE U.S. WOULD SUPPORT THE TRANSFER OF AMERICAN MILITARY EQUIPMENT TO CHAD. DJIME WOULD APPRECIATE OUR RESTATING OUR SUPPORT OF CHAD'S CASE TO THE IRANIANS.

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3. I TOLD HIM I WAS SURE WE COULD ARRANGE SOMETHING, BUT CAUTIONED OUR SUPPORT ONLY COVERED THE NON-LETHAL EQUIPMENT ALREADY APPROVED. (AT THIS MOMENT, TRUCKS AND JEEPS FOR INTERVENTION BATTALION WOULD, IN FRENCH MILITARY VIEW, BE THE MOST USEFUL EQUIPMENT THE CHADIANS COULD GET.)

4. COMMENT: WHILE ONE COULD WISH WE HAD BETTER COORDINA-

TION ON THE DELEGATION, CHAD'S UNILATERAL ACTION HAS SAVED
US FROM THE DIFFICULT TASK OF COMMITTING OURSELVES - AND THE
IRANIANS ON PAPER. IF THE DEPARTMENT CONCURS, WOULD APPRECIATE
EMBASSY TEHRAN: (A) RESTATING OUR STRONG SUPPORT FOR
CHADIAN REQUEST; AND (B) CONTACTING GEN. DJOGO TO BE OF ANY
POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE TO THE DELEGATION IN PRESENTING ITS
CASE.

5. PLEASE INFORM ME BY NIACT IMMEDIATE OF ANY ACTION
TAKEN.BRADFORD

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NNN

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